

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4657

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 2004

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR, TC, KN, UN

SUBJECT : CONTINUING EFFORTS TO LOBBY ON KOREAN ISSUE WITH UAE
PRIOR TO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT

1. PAST TWO WEEKS I HAVE SPOKEN WITH ADNAN PACHACHI, ADVISOR TO
SHAIKH ZAYED, AND NATHER AL-UMARI, ADVISOR IN MFA WHO IS CHARGED WITH
PREPARING POSITIONS FOR COLOMBO SUMMIT, ABOUT OUR CONCERNS WITH
RESPECT TO TREATMENT OF CERTAIN ISSUES AT SUMMIT MEETING. IN ADDITIO
N,
HAVING LEARNED THAT MFA NUMBER TWO SAIF GHUBBASH WILL REPRESENT
UAE AT PRELIMINARY FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE (FOREIGN MINISTER
SUWAIDI WILL ACCOMPANY ZAYED TO THE SUMMIT), I WENT OVER THIS GROUND
ONCE AGAIN WITH GHUBBASH. SINCE WE HAVE RECEIVED ASSURANCES
FROM GHUBBASH WHICH I BELIEVE ARE TRUSTWORTHY THAT UAE WILL NOT
LEND ITSELF TO ANYTHING BUT BLANDEST FORMULATION ON PUERTO RICO,
THERE APPEARS LITTLE MORE WE CAN ACHIEVE ON THIS ISSUE AND I
CONCENTRATED ENTIRELY ON KOREA. LATTER IS MUCH HARDER ISSUE
TO MAKE HEADWAY ON HERE.

2. I STRESSED TWO THEMES ABOUT KOREAN ISSUE. FIRST, THAT IT CAN
HARDLY BE CREDIT TO TRULY NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT TO LEND ITSELF
SO EASILY TO POLITICAL PURPOSES OF NORTH KOREA, WHICH CLEARLY
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NOT NON-ALIGNED AND WHOSE OBJECTIVE OF IMPOSING ITS WILL ON

SOUTH KOREA HAD NOT CHANGED IN 26 YEARS. SECONDLY, THAT WHILE KOREA MIGHT SEEM FAR AWAY FROM UAE'S CONCERNS, IT WAS SHORT-SIGHTED FOR ANY STATE IN WORLD WHO SHARED INTEREST IN MAINTAINING WHAT DEAN ACHESON CALLED THE "SPACIOUSNESS" OF THE FREE WORLD TO BE CASUAL ABOUT CONTINUING COMMUNIST EFFORTS TO SUBVERT AND TAKE OVER OTHER STATES SIMPLY BECAUSE THIS WAS NOT OCCURRING AT ITS OWN DOORSTEP. I SAID ADEN GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO DO PRECISELY THIS UNTIL RECENTLY HAD INDEED ALARMED UAE AND LED IT TO TAKE ACTION IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHERS TO RESIST PDRY.

3. MY THREE INTERLOCUTORS SEEMED TO ACCEPT SOME VALIDITY TO THESE AND OTHER POINTS WE HAVE MUSTERED ON KOREAN ISSUE, BUT GHUBBASH, AFTER DISCUSSING ISSUE ON "GLOBAL" PLANE FOR AWHILE, SAID THAT OVERRIDING CONSIDERATION FOR UAE AT SUMMIT WOULD BE FACT THAT MOST OF UAE'S MORE POWERFUL ARAB "SISTERS" WERE COMMITTED TO SUPPORT FOR NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION, AND UAE JUST WOULD NOT WISH TO MAKE THIS ISSUE BETWEEN ITSELF AND ARAB MAJORITY.

4. GHUBBASH WENT ON TO COMMENT THAT PERSONALLY HE WOULD NOT MIND IF HE NEVER SAW A NORTH KOREAN AGAIN. ON TWO OCCASIONS HE HAD BEEN EXPOSED TO THEIR REPRESENTATIONS HE AND OTHERS IN UAEG HAD BEEN OFFENDED BY THEIR HEAVY-HANDED TACTICS. I WAS LEFT WITH FEELING THAT PERHAPS BEST THING USG CAN DO AS FAR AS THIS GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED IS PROMOTE ANOTHER NORTH KOREAN DIPLO-MATIC MISSION OUT HERE.

5. FOREIGN MINISTER IS PRESENTLY IN LONDON. I HOPE TO SEE HIM WHEN HE GETS BACK AND WILL GO OVER OUR ARGUMENTS WITH HIM.

6. MY FINAL COMMENT IS THAT SUPPOSED "LEADER" OIO OUR EFFORTS ON KOREAN ISSUE HERE--THE JAPANESE--DO NOT SEEM TO BE DOING MUCH. AT SOCIAL GATHERING SOME TIME AGO I SUGGESTED TO JAPANESE AMBASSA-DOR THAT HE MIGHT CONVOKE INFORMAL GATHERING OF THOSE OF US HERE WHO WERE WILLING TO WEIGH IN (BESIDES OURSELVES AND JAPANESES, THE BRITISH AND GERMANS) TO DISCUSS LEVEL AND TIMING OF OUR APPROACHES. JAPANESE AMB HAS RATHER CONSPICUOUSLY NEVER TAKEN UP THIS SENSIBLE SUGGESTION. ALTHOUGH HE HAS NEVER STATED IT CAND-IDLY I AM INCLINED TO BELIEVE THAT HE PERSONALLY BELIEVES WHAT WE CAN ACCOMPLISH HERE ON THIS ISSUE IS LIMITED AND THAT THERE IS NO POINT IN QUEERING MORE DIRECT BILATERAL JAPANESE INTERESTS HERE BY
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PUSHING TOO HARD ON KOREA.
STERNER

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Message Attributes

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